

10/549995

JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 SEP 2005

8328-3:JMD:#363822

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
 Ronald F. WILSON, et al.) Before the Examiner
 Serial No. _____) Not Yet Assigned
 Filed September 19, 2005) Group Art Unit _____
 A METHOD AND APPARATUS)
 FOR DETERMINING ONE OR)
 MORE PHYSICAL PROPERTIES)
 OF A ROLLED SMOKING)
 ARTICLE OR FILTER ROD)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 P. O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' continuing duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.97 (b)(3), the following patents are brought to the attention of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and specifically to the attention of the Examiner assigned to the subject patent application. The submitted documents are listed on the attached PTO Form. A copy of any cited reference which is not a U.S. patent is enclosed herewith.

U.S. PATENT REFERENCES

Patent No.	Date	Inventor
4,907,607	03/13/90	Focke et al.
5,414,270	05/09/95	Henderson et al.
6,075,882	06/13/00	Mullins et al.
5,392,359	02/21/95	Futamura et al.
6,169,600	01/02/01	Ludlow
6,181,372	01/30/01	Jeri et al.

FOREIGN PATENT REFERENCES

Document Number	Date	Country
0 500 301 A1	08/26/92	EP
1 176 092 A1	01/30/02	EP
0 812 548 A1	12/17/97	EP
0 548 695 A2	06/30/93	EP
1 023 845 A1	08/02/00	EP

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH REFERENCES

A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language prior art patents under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as presently understood by the individual designated in §1.56(c) as most knowledgeable about the content of the information is set forth below.

EP 1 176 092 A1

This reference discloses a procedure for testing of tobacco side ends of cigarettes which entails irradiating areas with structured light. A detector receives the reflected light and produces an image corresponding to one of these areas. After evaluation of this image and recognition of a non-regular cigarette, a rejection signal is generated. The irradiated areas are each constructed surface area-dependent and each image is evaluated on the basis of different criteria such as minimum or maximum diameter of an image, the elongation of an image or compactness.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-identified patent application. It is believed that no fee is required for submission of this

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Statement. Should any additional fee be required, please charge such fee to Deposit

Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet 1 of 1	Atty. Docket No. 8328-3	Serial No. 10/549995
	Applicant Ronald F. WILSON, et al.	
	Filing Date September 19, 2005	Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Filing Date If appropriate
	4,907,607	03/13/90	Focke et al.	131	280	
	5,414,270	05/09/95	Henderson et al.	250	572	
	6,075,882	06/13/00	Mullins et al.	382	141	
	5,392,359	02/21/95	Futamura et al.	382	8	
	6,169,600	01/02/01	Ludlow	356	237.1	
	6,181,372	01/30/01	Jeri et al.	348	128	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						Yes	No
	0 500 301 A1	08/26/92	EP	G01B	11/04	x (in English)	
	1 176 092 A1	01/30/02	EP	B65B	19/30	x	
	0 812 548 A1	12/17/97	EP	A24C	5/34	x (in English)	
						(See USP 6,181,372)	
	0 548 695 A2	06/30/93	EP	G06F	15/70	x (in English)	
						(see USP 5,392,359)	
	1 023 845 A1	08/02/00	EP	A24C	5/34	x (in English)	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s) publisher city and/or country where published	T ²
Examiner			Date Considered
*Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.			